For a professional, his language is clearly highly emotive, but so is Lawyer Blank's as he accuses Dr. Workman of callousness in speaking for his patients so far as to claim that they had even come to like his innovatory soft chamois muffs. With almost Johnsonian indignation, he likens the muff to the noose, as if any amount of such physical restraint were literally "barbarous": "I don't know whether the bowstring by which the victims of Eastern despotism are strangled, is a whit more acceptable to them, because it is made of silk instead of hemp" (16).

When Dr. Workman expressed his fear that if her hands were free Mary might try cut her throat again with, Dr. Campbell replied with a shrug, "What if he does?" Dr. Campbell now explains that he was not being callous but realistic, since with the stitches removed and the wound reopened to allow her to breathe, there was no more damage she could do. He adds that he explained all this to Dr. Workman at the time of his visit. Lawyer Blank duly observes that Dr. Workman's memory is "remarkably convenient" (17).

Mary's "Lunatic" Statements

The question arises of the propriety of the Coroner recording Mary's statements as evidence against Dr. Campbell. The lawyer replies that legally speaking the Coroner is free to record what he pleases as evidence, as a coroner's inquest is not a trial. However, Mary's statements are not strictly speaking evidence at all, as she was not under oath when she made them. Her statements are legally only "hearsay," and moreover the "hearsay" of a lunatic. Lawyer Blank has never heard of "a lunatic being allowed to testify in a witness box, even under oath" (17). Lawyer B. asserts that Mary's insanity had already been fully established; therefore, the Coroner had no business taking any evidence from Mary. Permitting the publication of "hearsay" as evidence, he runs the risk of an action against himself for defamation.

Professional Judgment vs. Jury Verdict: "Felo de Se"

As for the jury's verdict, Lawyer Blank finds it improper too. Felo de se means "criminal deliberate suicide" which, as a "lunatic," Mary was incapable